

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1 and 16 and cancelled claims 6, 7, 22 and 23. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 8-21 and 24-31 remain pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 7, 11, 12, 14, 15, 23 and 27-31, but stated they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the limitation of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In order to expedite the issuance of a patent, the Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 7, and intervening claim 6, and amended claim 16 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 23, and intervening claim 22. Accordingly, claims 1 and 16 are now allowable. Furthermore, whereas claims 2-5 and 8-15 are dependent from claim 1 and claims 17-21 and 24-31 are dependent from claim 16, and include the limitations thereof, those claims are also now allowable.

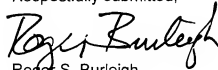
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-5, 8-21 and 24-31.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger S. Burleigh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Roger" being more prominent.

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